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Letter dated 18 August 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on 18 August 2014 by a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and of a statement issued on 17 August 2014 by a spokesperson for the General Staff of the Korean People's Army with regard to the dangerous joint military exercises titled "Ulji Freedom Guardian", which are now being conducted by the United States and south Korea against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (see annexes).

The United States-south Korea joint military exercises, including the "Ulji Freedom Guardian", are by no means annual or routine exercises of a "defensive nature" but are real combat-like nuclear war games of aggression against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The "Ulji Freedom Guardian" exercises, in particular, are the largest war games in the world. The military forces involved in its size and nature are enough to carry out a full all-out war with a purpose of occupying Pyongyang, capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, according to the war scenario drafted by the United States. This clearly shows the aggressive nature of the United States-south Korea joint military exercises against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

That is why the "Ulji Freedom Guardian" exercises should be regarded as a cancer-like root, which gravely undermines peace and security on the Korean peninsula.

Only when this cancer-like root is removed, peace and security, as well as the denuclearization of the whole Korean peninsula and the normalization of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea-United States relationship will be ensured.

I would like to remind that I requested the Security Council on 21 July 2014 (see S/2014/512*) to urgently discuss the question of the United States-south Korea joint military exercises. However, the Security Council has so far ignored the request of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This only exposes the partiality and irresponsibility of the Security Council, which is manipulated by the high-handed pressure of the United States, and which is against the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

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The position of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is consistent that the Security Council should take its request into serious consideration and urgently undertake proper action to treat the cancer-like root for peace and security on the Korean peninsula.

Therefore, I again strongly request that the question of the United States-south Korea joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Security Council, and that a meeting of the Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I also request that, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, a representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea be allowed to participate in the meeting and to make a statement.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ja** Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex I to the letter dated 18 August 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement issued on 18 August 2014 by a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Pyongyang, August 18 (KCNA). A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a statement on Monday assailing the United States and the south Korean puppet forces for kicking off the Ulji Freedom Guardian joint military exercises against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The statement said:

> The United States is becoming all the more undisguised in its criminal moves to disturb peace and ignite a nuclear war through a vicious cycle of tensions on the Korean peninsula and in the region.
>
> The United States, together with the south Korean puppet forces, kicked off the Ulji Freedom Guardian military exercises against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea despite its repeated warnings and the serious concern of the international community.
>
> The United States is staging ceaseless and ever larger-scale joint military exercises on the Korean peninsula and in its vicinity several times a year. They are grave military provocations against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and are unpardonable criminal acts of disturbance of peace and security.
>
> In order to prevent the world public from focusing its criticism on the aggressive nature and danger of the joint military exercises, the United States is letting loose such sophism as describing them as "annual" and "defensive" exercises. They are, at the same time, terming countermeasures of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as "threat" and "provocation", like a thief crying, "Stop the thief!"
>
> When the principled stand and efforts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to defuse tensions on the Korean peninsula and create a peaceful environment drew support and sympathy from those countries in the region at the recent ministerial meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum held in Myanmar, United States Secretary of State Kerry, at the talks between the diplomatic and defence chiefs of the United States and Australia held two days later, impudently blustered that the just, self-defensive steps of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are "wrecking stability in the whole region" and sparking off "serious concern".
>
> On Friday, a deputy spokesperson of the United States Department of State and a spokesperson of the United States Department of Defense vied with each other to make such belligerent remarks that it would continue joint military exercises while terming the tactical rocket test-fire of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea a "threat".

Despicable, indeed, is the attitude of the United States authorities' resorting to foolish deceptive artifice and intrigues to justify their acts to perpetrate aggression and disturb peace.

It is an inveterate method of aggression of the United States to ignite a war while profoundly confusing right and wrong.

The United States has staged a total of more than 18,000 war manoeuvres of various forms for aggression in south Korea for more than six decades since the 1950s, but it claims they have never posed any threat to the north. But it contends that even a single test-fire and drill of tactical guided-missiles for self-defence conducted by the Korean People's Army to cope with them should be called into question. This is the American-style standard and is brigandish logic.

Joint military exercises staged in south Korea after the United States announced its new defense strategy are assuming a more aggressive nature, and their scale and frequency are steadily increasing, ranging from the largest-ever joint landing drill aimed to "occupy Pyongyang" to a drill for "breaking through the Military Demarcation Line" all of a sudden, a drill for "restoring administrative units after occupying the north" and a special operation drill for destroying the headquarters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The United States announced that it would apply for the first time during the exercises a "tailored deterrence strategy", which calls for mounting a pre-emptive strike by mobilizing all forms of armed forces, including nuclear weapons, if a sign of "the use of nuclear weapons and missiles" is detected. This is another undisguised nuclear threat and blackmail.

The danger of the tensions on the Korean peninsula at present, together with the United States threat to mount a pre-emptive nuclear strike being rapidly put into practice, lies in that it is disturbing global peace and security far beyond the regional scale.

The joint military exercises being staged under the pretext of the "threat" from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are strictly pursuant to the United States strategy for world domination and to bring down the social system in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and with an eye to the Asian continent with the Korean peninsula as a bridgehead. This is a stark reality which no one can deny.

The United States armed build-up in northeast Asia, including the Korean peninsula, and the world's largest war manoeuvres will spark off a new arms race and Cold War.

The threat of one party is bound to trigger off retaliation from the other party, and a war is bound to break out in this course. This is a lesson that has been taught by history.

If one is weak, though one is very honest-minded and just, one is bound to fall victim to the strong, and a genuine peace is protected only when one is strong. This is the immutable logic reflected in the line of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in simultaneously developing the two fronts.

If the international community wants peace and stability in the region and the rest of the world, it should recognize the validity and inevitability of the self-defensive steps of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect the security of the country and nation and take issue with the provocative nuclear war drills of the United States and the south Korean puppet forces and hold them in check.

As long as the nuclear war manoeuvres go on to stifle the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by force, it will put its self-defensive counteraction on an annual and regular basis and take steps at a higher stage in the future which no one can predict.

Annex II to the letter dated 18 August 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement issued by a spokesperson for the General Staff of the Korean People's Army on 17 August 2014

Pyongyang, August 17 (KCNA). A spokesman for the General Staff of the Korean People's Army issued on Sunday a statement denouncing the United States and the south Korean puppet forces for setting about the Ulji Freedom Guardian joint military exercises again.

The statement said that the Ulji Freedom Guardian exercises were dangerous nuclear war drills aimed at mounting a surprise pre-emptive strike at the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the deceptive signboard of "tailored deterrence" and adventurous ones to be staged under the simulated conditions of an actual war designed to ignite a "local and total war" any time under the pretext of non-existent "provocation".

The General Staff of the Korean People's Army clarified the principled retaliatory stand of the revolutionary armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to cope with the war maniacs' reckless war moves against it, the statement said, and went on:

> Now that the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet forces declared a war against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by announcing their plan to apply the "tailored deterrence strategy" to an actual war, we reclarify that the Korean-style most powerful and advanced merciless pre-emptive strike will start any time chosen by us.
>
> If we strike the United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet forces, they should be hit hard without any excuse, and if we are determined, large and small bases for aggression will be reduced to a sea of flames and ashes.
>
> The projected war manoeuvres for aggression made clear the United States imperialists' scenario for their permanent presence in south Korea and brought the puppet authorities' sycophancy towards the United States and acts of treachery into bolder relief.
>
> Under this situation, we unhesitatingly make public that our revolutionary armed forces will launch successive powerful physical offensives to resolutely terminate all this.
>
> What we cannot overlook any longer is the United States imperialists' invariable attempt to establish their permanent presence in south Korea and the heinous acts of treachery of the puppet forces, modern-day five traitors of 1905.
>
> Now that they have more openly revealed their attempt never to give up their sinister ambition to "bring down the social system in the north and occupy it" and "achieve unification through absorption" by putting the war manoeuvres "on a regular and annual basis", our revolutionary armed forces

will intensify their military counteraction for foiling them on a regular and annual basis.

Absolutely unpardonable are all crimes adding to the pent-up grudges of all Koreans under the pretext of "regular and annual drills".

The United States imperialists and the south Korean puppet forces will have to pay a dear price for their acts of going against the nation, reunification and peace, since they have reacted to all the peace initiatives and proposals made in good faith and magnanimity by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with extremely dangerous war manoeuvres.

They bitterly regretted that they fought a wrong war with a wrong rival and in the wrong time and place. They should never regard this as what happened in the Korean war.

They should bear in mind that our revolutionary armed forces are sure to emerge an eternal victor and that their enemies are fated to meet a miserable doom.